

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2387

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for increased medicare reimbursement for physician assistants, to increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 10, 1993

Mr. TOWNS (for himself and Mr. COYNE) introduced the following bill; which was referred jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for increased medicare reimbursement for physician assistants, to increase the delivery of health services in health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Physician Assistant
5 Incentive Act of 1993”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASED MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT FOR PHY-**
2 **SICIAN ASSISTANTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1842(b)(12)(A)(ii) of the
4 Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1395u(b)(12)(A)(ii)) is
5 amended.

6 (1) in subclause (I), by striking “65 percent”
7 and inserting “65 percent, or in the case of physi-
8 cian assistant services 97 percent”; and

9 (2) in subclause (II), by striking “or for serv-
10 ices furnished” and all that follows through “1848”
11 and inserting “or for services of a physician assist-
12 ant 97 percent of the fee schedule amount specified
13 in section 1848 for the same service performed by
14 a physician or for services of a nurse practitioner
15 the fee schedule amount specified in such section”.

16 (b) BONUS PAYMENT FOR SERVICES PROVIDED IN
17 HEALTH PROFESSIONAL SHORTAGE AREAS.—Section
18 1833(m) (42 U.S.C. 1395l(m)) is amended—

19 (1) by inserting “(1)” after “(m)”; and

20 (2) by adding at the end the following new
21 paragraph:

22 “(2) In the case of services of a physician assistant,
23 furnished to an individual, described in paragraph (1), in
24 an area that is a health professional shortage area as de-
25 scribed in such paragraph, in addition to the amount oth-
26 erwise paid under this part, there shall also be paid to

1 such service provider (or to an employer in the cases de-
2 scribed in clause (C) of section 1842(b)(6) (on a monthly
3 or quarterly basis) from the Federal Supplementary Medi-
4 cal Trust Fund an amount equal to 10 percent of the pay-
5 ment amount for the service under this part.”.

6 (c) REMOVAL OF RESTRICTION ON SETTINGS.—Sec-
7 tion 1861(s)(2)(K)(i) of such Act (42 U.S.C.
8 1395x(s)(2)(K)(i) is amended by striking “(I) in a hos-
9 pital” and all that follows through “shortage area”.

10 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by
11 this section shall apply to services furnished on or after
12 July 1, 1993.

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